



NATIONAL HOLIDAYS IN IN GREATER BRITAIN



Quiz: “What do you know about Great Britain?”

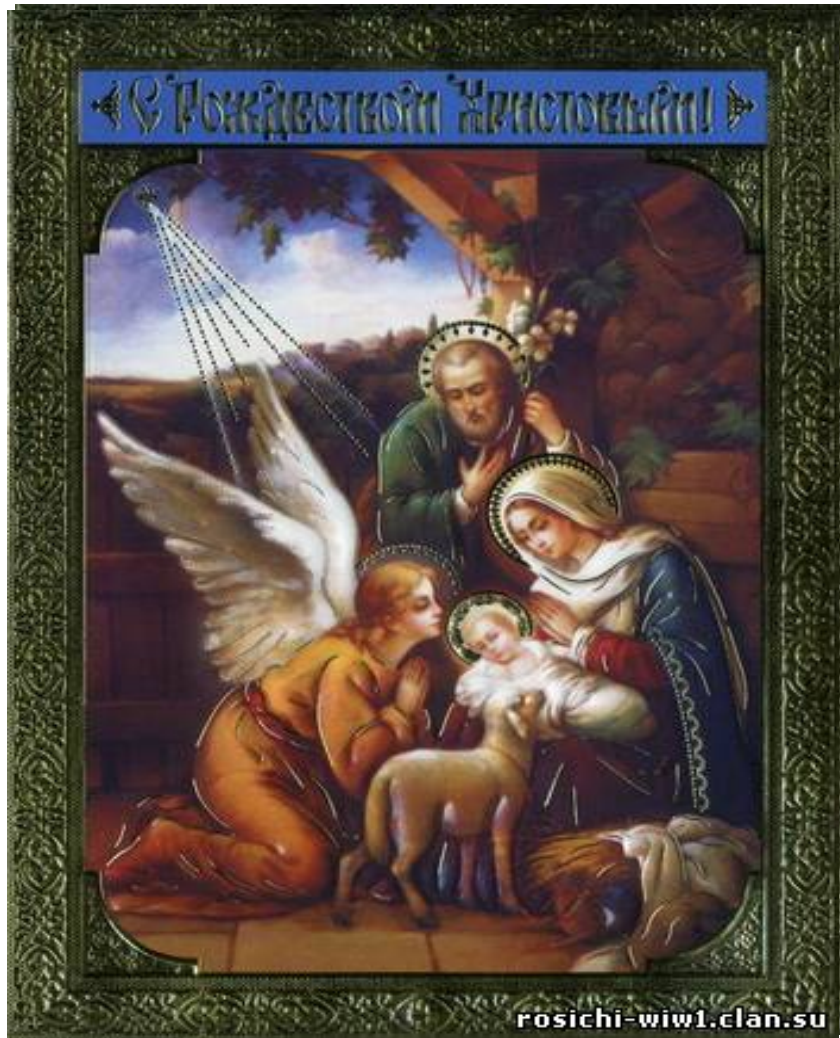
1. When is Christmas celebrated in the UK?
2. Is Advent Sunday in November or in December?
3. What is the traditional dish on Christmas?
4. Why is the January 5th called as Twelfth Night?
5. What are stockings used for on Christmas day?
6. Whose name comes from the Dutch for ‘St. Nicolas?
7. Is Boxing Day connected with Christmas?
8. Which holiday is more popular in the UK: Christmas or New Year?
9. What holiday is celebrated in February in the UK?
10. What national holidays are connected with symbols of the country?



Advent

- Advent Began on Sunday on 30 November 2008.
- It is a time of waiting for the arrival of Christmas. Advent begins on the Sunday nearest to 30th November and lasts until midnight on Christmas Eve. Advent Sunday is the first of the four Sundays before the 25th December.





Christmas

On the 25th of December there is the greatest holiday of all in England – Christmas. People send X-mas cards to their friends and relatives. People buy a Christmas tree and decorate it with toys, coloured balls and lights.

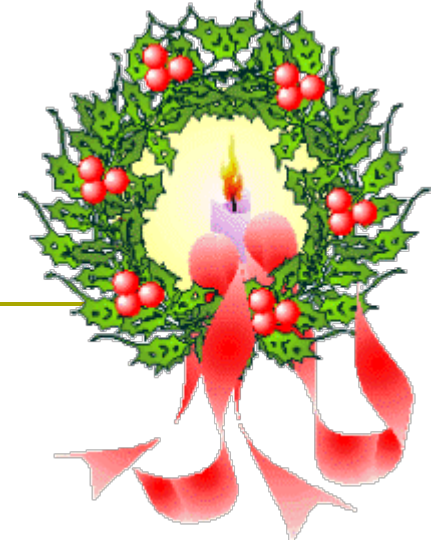
Children wake up early to find stockings full of small presents on their bed.

A Christmas tree stands in everybody's living room on Christmas, giving joy and happiness to everybody. There is usually a silver star surrounded by tiny lights on the very top of the tree. Silver bells, tinsel and sparkling lights are on the branches. Around the base of the tree there are usually the gifts and toys wrapped up in colorful paper. The traditional dish on Christmas is **turkey and pudding.**





Merry Christmas



- Christmas is a time for parties, presents , traditional customs and eating. Christmas Eve is the time when the Christmas tree is usually decorated. The decorations stay on the tree for twelve days (until January 5th , also known as **Twelfth Night**).





Merry Christmas

- Children write letters to Santa Claus / Father Christmas and ask him to bring presents;,. Children leave stockings by the fireplace or at the end of their beds so Santa Claus / Father Christmas can fill them with presents.



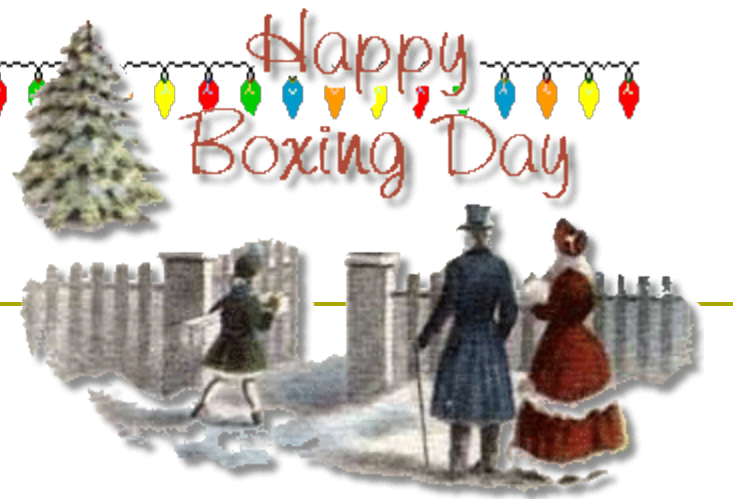
Santa Claus and St. Nicholas.

All over the world, traditional gift bringers visit children at Christmas. Santa Claus is the best known of these. His name comes from the Dutch for '**St. Nicolas**', which is Sinterklaas. St. Nicolas was Bishop of Mary, in Asia Minor. He was a rich man who used his wealth to help others.





Boxing Day



- Boxing Day is the following day after Christmas Day. It is on the **26 December**.
- Traditionally, this was the day to open the Christmas Box to share the contents with the poor.

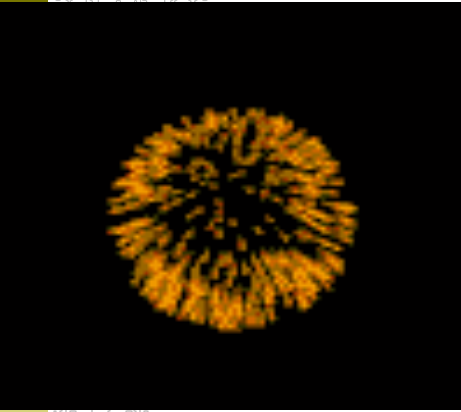


- Traditionally, Boxing Day is the day when families get together. It is a day of watching sports and playing board games with the family. Many families will go on walks in the countryside together on this day.

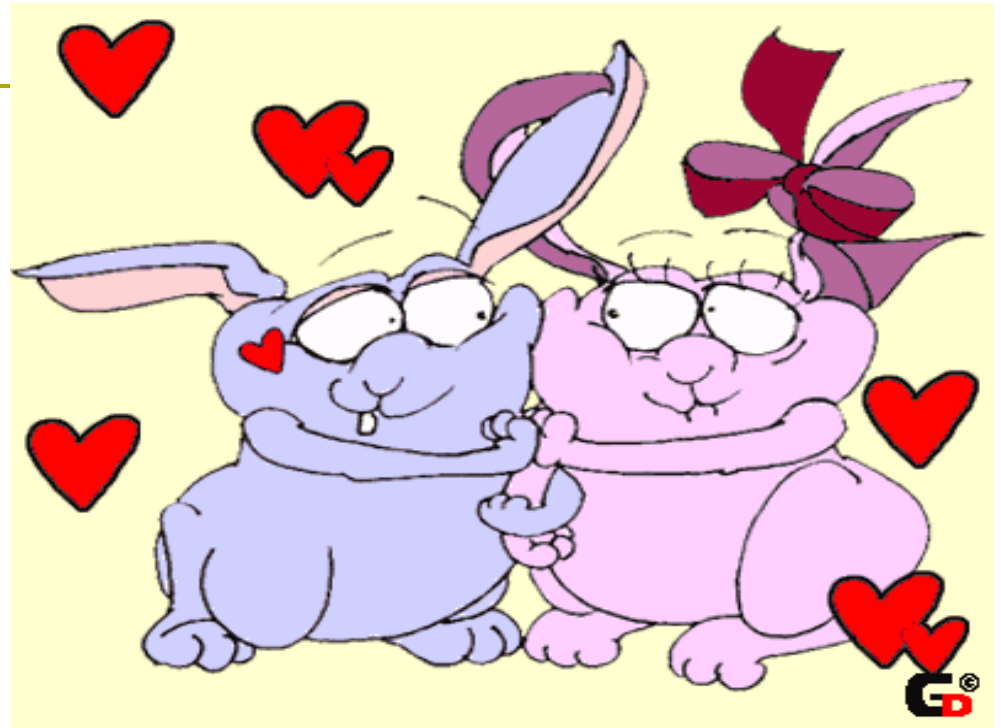
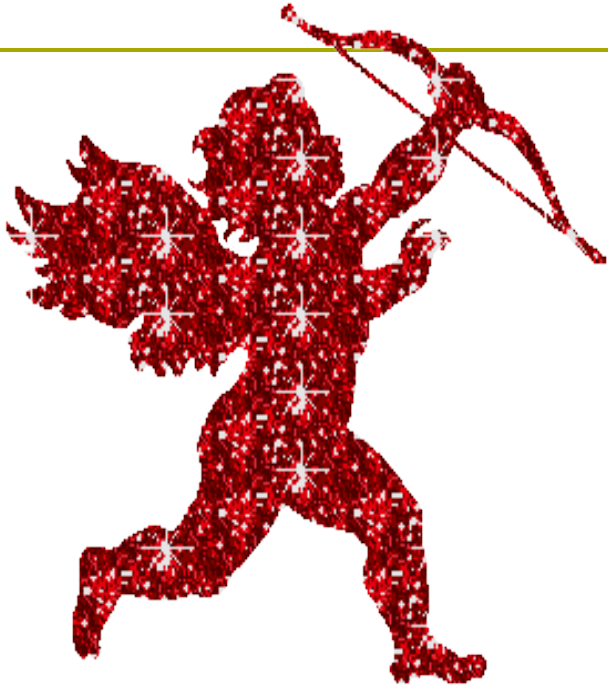
New Year's Day



- People welcome in the New Year on the night before. This is called **New Year's Eve**. In Scotland, people celebrate with a lively festival called Hogmanay. All over Britain there are parties, fireworks, singing and dancing, to ring out the old year and ring in the new. As the clock - **Big Ben** - strikes midnight, people link arms and sing a song called Auld Lang Syne.



St. Valentine's day



On the **14th of February** there is St. Valentine's Day. People send Valentine's cards to someone they love. Usually they don't sign them – you should guess who sent cards to you.

Saint Patrick's Day

On the 17th of March Irish people all over the world celebrate Saint Patrick's Day.

The legend tells that he drove (*прогнал*) all the snakes out of Ireland by banging a drum (*барабан*).

On that day the Irish wear shamrocks (*клевер*) in their hats. Shamrock is a small three-leaf plant.

It's the **symbol** of Northern Ireland.

You are lucky to find a four-leaf shamrock.



St. David's Day

The national flower of **Wales** is the **daffodil**, which is traditionally worn on St. David's Day. It is celebrated on March 1. The vegetable called **leeks** is also considered to be a traditional **emblem** of Wales.



Look at the symbols of holidays. You should try to prove your suggestions briefly

1.



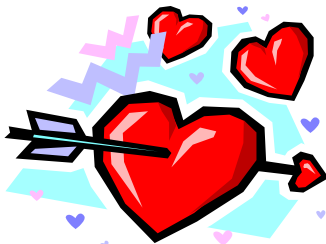
1. It's New Year or Christmas – the fur tree is the symbol of the New Year and Christmas.

2.



2. Christmas – Santa Clause is the symbol of this holiday.

3.



3. St. Valentine's Day – it is the day of love and a heart with an arrow is a symbol of this holiday.

Insert the proper words concerning the theme " Holidays":

1. People celebrate ... on the 31 of December.

- **New Year's Day**
- **All Fools' Day**
- **St. Patrick's Day**

2. They ... New Year tree on that holiday.

- **dream**
- **decorate**
- **cut**

3. ... is the most popular holiday in Great Britain.

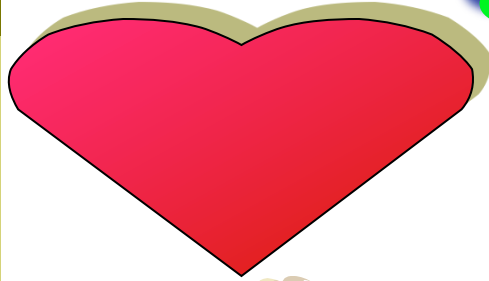
- **Easter**
- **Christmas**
- **May Day**

4. ... is the holiday of lovers.

May Day
St. Valentine's Day
St. David's Day



Happy New Year!



New Year's
Celebrations

